



ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICAN
RAILROADS

A3275-2
10/4/88

Office of Information
and Public Affairs
50 F Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20001
(202) 639-2555

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, September 29, 1988 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended September 24 totaled 19.8 billion ton-miles, up 1.1 percent from the 19.6 billion carried in the comparable week of 1987, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative volume for the first 38 weeks of 1988 was an estimated 727.6 billion ton-miles carried, up 7.1 percent from the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings originated in the week ended September 24 totaled 453,245, up 0.2 percent from the corresponding week of last year, and 0.9 percent above the preceding week. Compared with last year, carloadings originated were down 1.3 percent in the East, but up 1.9 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week of last year, eight of the 20 major commodity groups increased. Loadings of motor vehicles and equipment were up 2,228 cars (11.3 percent); loadings of crushed stone, gravel and sand increased by 1,580 cars (8.5 percent); but grain was down 4,414 cars (12.6 percent). Eleven of the 20 commodity groups increased from the preceding week.

Piggyback

Piggyback traffic for the week ended September 17 totaled 116,469 trailers and/or containers, up 3.8 percent from the comparable week of 1987.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 37 weeks of the year was 4,044,769 trailers and/or containers, up 5.6 percent from 1987.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 9/24/88:

	Loadings in Week ended <u>September 24, 1988</u>			<u>Change from Corresponding Week 1987</u>			<u>Change from Preceding Week</u>		
	Cars			Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent	
Grain	30,502	D		4,414	12.6	D	762	2.4	
Other farm products	3,252	D		923	22.1	D	68	2.0	
Metallic ores	20,827	D		790	3.7	D	68	0.3	
Coal	129,435	I		820	0.6	I	1,118	0.9	
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	20,145	I		1,580	8.5	I	594	3.0	
Nonmetallic minerals	11,120	I		514	4.8	I	304	2.9	
Grain mill products	11,103	D		203	1.8	D	9	0.1	
Food and kindred products	11,192	D		590	5.0	I	232	2.1	
Primary forest products	9,935	D		1,271	11.3	D	232	2.3	
Lumber and wood products except furniture	7,726	D		713	8.4	I	360	4.9	
Pulp, paper and allied products	11,975	D		456	3.7	D	309	2.5	
Chemicals and allied products	28,138	I		920	3.4	I	32	0.1	
Petroleum products	4,977	D		16	0.3	D	299	5.7	
Stone, clay and glass products	11,610	D		158	1.3	I	194	1.7	
Coke	5,650	I		579	11.4	D	26	0.5	
Metals and products	11,160	I		924	9.0	I	791	7.6	
Motor vehicles and equipment	21,966	I		2,228	11.3	I	496	2.3	
Waste and scrap materials	9,690	D		143	1.5	D	303	3.0	
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	2,420	D		672	21.7	I	60	2.5	
All other carloads	<u>90,422</u>	<u>I</u>		<u>3,898</u>	<u>4.5</u>	<u>I</u>	<u>2,058</u>	<u>2.3</u>	
Total Cars Loaded	453,245	I		1,114	0.2	I	4,163	0.9	
Corresponding week of 1987	452,131								

	<u>1988</u>	<u>1987</u>	<u>% Change</u>	
Total Cars Loaded (38 weeks)	16,074,635	15,312,431	I	5.0

Estimated revenue ton-miles
(in billions):

37 weeks ended September 17	707.8	659.7	I	7.3
Week ended September 24	<u>19.8</u>	<u>19.6</u>	<u>I</u>	<u>1.1</u>
38 Weeks cumulative	727.6	679.3	I	7.1